

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ACCRA 09232 201621Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PRS-01 PA-02 NSC-05 PER-03 CPR-01
SSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /044 W
----- 068809 /54

P 201450Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5777

UNCLAS ACCRA 9232

USIA

FOR IBS/IPS

EO 11652 NA
TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, GH
SUB: REMARKS AT AMBASSADOR'S PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS, AND
REPLY

1. FOLLOWING ARE REMARKS DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR SMITH ON
PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS TO HEAD OF STATE, FRIDAY, DECEMBER
17.

2. "IT IS MY VERY GREAT HONOR TO PRESENT TO YOU THE LETTERS
BY WHICH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES ACCREDITS ME AS
AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA. THE LETTERS ALSO RECALL
MY DISTINGUISHED PREDECESSOR, AMBASSADOR SHIRLEY TEMPLE BLACK.

3. "YOUR EXCELLENCY, I BRING TO YOU AND TO THE PEOPLE OF GHANA
THE WARM GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES OF PRESIDENT FORD AND THE
PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES. I BRING YOU ALSO THE SPECIAL
GREETINGS OF AMBASSADOR BLACK, WHO SENDS HER BEST REGARDS TO
YOU AND TO HER MANY FRIENDS IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIFE HERE.
AMBASSADOR HADSEL, TOO, HAS ASKED ME TO CONVEY TO YOU HIS WARM
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ACCRA 09232 201621Z

PERSONAL REGARDS.

4. "I HAVE COME TO GHANA AT A TIME WHEN THE ISSUES OF AFRICA
COMMAND WORLD ATTENTION. THE UNITED STATES SHARES BLACK
AFRICA'S COMMITMENT TO MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA, INDEPENDENCE
FOR NAMIBIA AND THE IMPROVEMENT OF RACIAL CONDITIONS IN SOUTH

AFRICA. WE WELCOME OPPORTUNITIES TO WORK CLOSELY WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT TO SPEED ACHIEVEMENT OF THESE AIMS.

5. "I HAVE ALSO COME HERE AT A TIME WHEN RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE RETURNED TO THE WARMTH AND CLOSENESS WE HAVE NORMALLY ENJOYED. OUR PEOPLES HAVE LONG HAD CLOSE TIES. I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THEM DEEPEN STILL FURTHER WHILE I HAVE THE HONOR OF REPRESENTING THE UNITED STATES IN ACCRA.

6. "THE UNITED STATES HAS ASSOCIATED ITSELF WITH GHANA'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS EVEN BEFORE INDEPENDENCE IN 1957. WE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT YOUR GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL SELF SUFFICIENCY. I BELIEVE THAT GHANAIS AND AMERICANS ALIKE CAN TAKE PRIDE IN THE REAL PROGRESS MADE IN INDUSTRY, IN AGRICULTURE, IN EDUCATION, IN PUBLIC HEALTH AND IN THE MANY OTHER AREAS WHERE WE HAVE WORKED TOGETHER TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL CITIZENS.

7. "YOUR EXCELLENCY, OUR PEOPLES AND GOVERNMENTS HAVE MANY HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS IN COMMON AND I AM GRATIFIED THAT OUR CONTACTS IN SO MANY FIELDS HAVE BEEN SO LONG AND FRUITFUL. IT IS TO THE MAINTENANCE OF THESE GOOD RELATIONS AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL CONTACTS THAT I PLEDGE MY BEST EFFORTS."

8. CHAIRMAN ACHEAMPONG'S REPLY FOLLOWS:

9. "IN ACCEPTING THE LETTERS BY WHICH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HAS ACCREDITED YOU AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY TO GHANA, AND ALSO THE LETTERS OF RECALL OF YOUR DISTINGUISHED PREDECESSOR, AMBASSADOR BLACK, UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ACCRA 09232 201621Z

I WISH TO RECIPROCATATE PRESIDENT FORD'S WARM AND KIND SENTIMENTS AND TO REQUEST YOU IN TURN TO CONVEY TO THE PRESIDENT, THE GOVERNMENT AND THE FRIENDLY PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, OUR BEST REGARDS AND WARM WISHES FOR THEIR CONTINUED PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY.

10. "THE THOUGHTFULNESS OF AMBASSADOR BLACK AND HADSEL IS APPRECIATED, AND YOU MAY WISH TO CONVEY TO THEM OUR CONTINUED REGARD AND FRIENDSHIP.

11. "TODAY'S CEREMONY AFFORDS ME YET ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO REITERATE OUR ABIDING INTEREST IN MAINTAINING CLOSE AND FRUITFUL TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. AS YOU HAVE RIGHTLY POINTED OUT, YOU ARE ASSUMING DUTY IN OUR COUNTRY AT A TIME WHEN RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES ARE AS WARM AS THEY SHOULD BE. WE HAVE HAND OUR PERIODS OF DIFFERENCES AND NO DOUBT WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE NOW AND THEN, BUT WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT IS THAT ON BOTH SIDES THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE AWARENESS

THAT THE POSITIVE FACTORS WHICH BIND US SHOULD OVERCOME WHAT-
EVER TEMPORARY DISAGREEMENTS MAY ARISE BETWEEN US. YOUR
PRESENCE HERE TODAY TESTIFIES TO THE FACT THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT
AND PEOPLE, JUST LIKE OURS, ARE COMMITTED TO MAINTAINING AND
IMPROVING THE LONG-STANDING AND BENEFICIAL TIES EXISTING BETWEEN
OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES.

12. "WE ARE GRATIFIED TO KNOW THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT CONTINUES AND
WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT US IN OUR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL
SELF-SUFFICIENCY. BE ASSURED THAT WE IN GHANA SINCERELY APPRE-
CIATE THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS THAT AMERICA HAS MADE TO
THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF OUR COUNTRY.

13. /EXCELLENCY, THE BURNING ISSUES FACING AFRICA ARE
APPROPRIATELY RECEIVING THEIR DUE ATTENTION IN THE WORLD
TODAY. THOSE AREAS WHICH YOU MENTIONED-RHODESIA, NAMIBIA
AND THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA-CONSTITUTE THE LAST FEW
BASTIONS OF OPPRESSION AND RACIAL BIGOTRY IN OUR PART OF THE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 ACCRA 09232 201621Z

WORLD. IT SHOULD BE STATED EMPHATICALLY THAT THE PROCESSES
OF DECOLONISATION AND SELF-DETERMINATION WHICH HAVE SWEEPED
THROUGH THE WHOLE WORLD DURING THIS CENTURY, AND
PARTICULARLY AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR, CANNOT STOP AT THE
BOUNDARIES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. OBVIOUSLY IT IS UNREALISTIC TO
EXPECT THAT THE WHITE MINORITIES WILL BE ABLE TO DOMINATE THE
BLACK MAJORITIES FOREVER.

14. "THUS WE CALL ON THE RACIST REGIMES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA NOT
TO PERSIST IN THEIR SUBVERSION OF ALL THE INITIATIVES, INCLUD-
ING THAT OF YOUR GOVERNMENT, AIMED AT RESOLVING THE ISSUES
OF SOUTHERN AFRICA IN PEACE. THEY MUST BE LEFT IN NO DOUBT THAT
THE ALTERNATIVE WILL BE A BLOODBATH AND RACIAL WAR WHICH THEY
CANNOT WIN, AND WHICH WILL BE AGAINST THE INTERESTS OF ALL THE
PEOPLE LIVING IN THAT PART OF AFRICA, ESPECIALLY THE MINORITIES.

15. "CONSIDERING OUR DEEP COMMITMENT TO THE CAUSE OF OUR AFRICAN
BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, IT IS A SOURCE
OF SATISFACTION TO US THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT SHARES OUR
CONCERNS AND HOPES ON THESE ISSUES. IT IS YOUR SINCERE HOPE
THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WITH ITS CONSIDERABLE INFL-
UENCE WILL JOIN US IN FINDING EQUITABLE AND FAIR SOLUTIONS
TO THOSE PROBLEMS.

16. "EXCELLENCY, LET ME FINALLY ASSURE YOU OF OUR WHOLE-HEARTED
PREPAREDNESS TO ASSIST YOU IN THE FULFILMENT OF YOUR
DIPLOMATIC MISSION THIS COUNTRY."
BACHE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, TEXT, AMBASSADORS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ACCRA09232
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760466-1046
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761226/aaaaawix.tel
Line Count: 167
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: schwenja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUN 2004 by chengls>; APPROVED <31 AUG 2004 by schwenja>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REMARKS AT AMBASSADOR'S PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS, AND REPLY
TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, GH, (SMITH)
To: USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006